JOIN THE MOVEMENT
AND MAKE YOUR MARK!

Join the growing movement of people from different faiths who are uniting and taking action to end GBV.

Here are ways to be better equipped to do this work and also share with others:

Workshop the following core guiding documents in your faith community and translate them into practical actions that are appropriate for your context:

Joint Interfaith GBV Statement of Commitment
www.wwsosa.org.za/interfaith-statement/

Interfaith GBV Prevention and Mitigation Strategy 2030
www.wwsosa.org.za/strategy

Join the Online Community of Praxis Platform to access support, materials and solidarity
www.interfaithendgbv.org.za

Join the monthly Faith Action Collective Community Forum meetings and other learning spaces for active networking, shared learning, joint planning and sharing about our work.

Join a Faith Action Working Group or start your own! Current focus areas are:

- Men, Masculinities and Fatherhood
- GBV and Mental Health • Spiritual Abuse
- Movement Building and Inclusivity • Restorative Justice
- Children, Youth and Family

YOU DON'T' HAVE TO GO IT ALONE –

Your **voice and action** matter!
Together we have a **much bigger impact.**
Together **we can end GBV!**

INTERFAITH STATEMENT
OF COMMITMENT

Gender-based violence is unacceptable, inexcusable, and intolerable in all its manifestations.

Yet, we confess that we have sometimes chosen not to see, or tolerated gender-based violence. We have been collaborators and co-conspirators against the very essence of our creation.

From our platform within local communities, people of faith potentially play a vital role in raising awareness, advocating for survivors' rights and against impunity, holding perpetrators accountable, and challenging harmful gender norms and gender injustices - without fear or favour.

Yet, we confess that we have often been complicit by our silence, our inaction, our misuse of sacred texts and our rigid structures that silence or exclude diversity. Thus, we have undermined God's equal creation of all people.

Therefore, we commit to standing up, speaking out and taking decisive action, and to being accountable to survivors, to each other, and to God.

OUR SERVICE TO YOU

The We Will Speak Out SA and Faith Action Consultancy brings together experienced specialists in communications, gender justice,GBVF, fundraising and organisational development to deliver high-quality, tailored support. All funds earned contribute directly to our interfaith programme work, Partner with us,and achieve your goals while sustaining work that matters.

CONTACT US

www.wwsosa.org.za

coordinator@wwsosa.org.za

WHO ARE WE?

DIVERSE PEOPLE OF FAITH

who speak out, stand up, collaborate, share knowledge, disrupt harmful norms, act decisively with SURVIVORS in the centre to end gender-based violence and femicide.



WE WILL SPEAK OUT South Africa | Faith ACTION

FAITH COMMUNITIES COLLABORATING TO END GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

FAITH IN **ACTION**

HISTORY AND UNITY

We Will Speak Out SA (WWSOSA)

Launched in 2013
In response to survivor stories of their deep need for support from their faith communities.

The Faith Action to End GBV Collective

Launched in June 2020
During the GBVF crisis during Covid-19 and the launch of the National Strategic Plan on GBV and Femicide.

The two **umbrella structures** work together and in our own spaces - to grow and equip an interfaith movement to address gender injustice and **end GBVF and mitigate its impact.**

Key partners and subcribers

>1000

- **SURVIVORS**
- **SCHOLARS**
- **RELIGIOUS LEADERS**
- **ACTIVISTS**

HOW CAN THE FAITH SECTOR MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

More than **97% of South Africa's people identify as religious,** and many still have deep cultural roots. The faith sector has a strong influence in our lives.

Places of worship are everywhere:

- Transforming harmful social, cultural and religious norms.
- Offering hope and healing.

Yet, ***some religious leaders and institutions*** have condoned or perpetuated GBV or spiritual abuse – misusing their authority, sacred texts and practices in ways that cause harm.

Lasting and credible change begins with **personal and institutional transformation.**

Some faith leaders and institutions are **courageously introducing systems of accountability.**

They are taking responsibility – not just within their walls, but across families, communities, and generations.

> **When you are abused, your spirit is attacked**
>
> *Nompilo Gcwensa, Chairperson of Phephisa Survivors Network*



TOGETHER, WE ACTIVELY:

- ✓ Equip and accompany faith leaders and institutions as they drive institutional change towards greater GBV-competence through a year-long Faith Leaders' Gender Transformation Programme.
- ✓ Host an interfaith online and in-person Community of Praxis, and offer support materials to equip faith leaders and institutions.
- ✓ Offer training and share training resources tailored to requests by faith leaders and institutions to strengthen their gender justice and GBV initiatives.
- ✓ Provide a strong evidence base to promote faith sector accountability and strengthen calls for transformation in faith communities and broader society through joint research and advocacy.
- ✓ Shift deeply ingrained patriarchal and colonial narratives through ongoing high-impact communications to reclaim life-giving narratives about gender, faith, and power, equipping people of faith to address GBV.

VALUES AND PRINCIPLES:

At the heart of how we work towards restorative healing are the values of love, oneness, dignity for all, and peace with justice and mercy – UBUNTU, in sum.

- prevention
- accountability
- response and care
- norm change
- multi-sectoral and multi- faith collaboration
- continual innovation

The dream is to create a South Africa characterised by **inclusivity and harmony that is free from gender injustice and gender-based violence,** guided by the Interfaith GBV Strategy and the National Strategic Plan on GBVF.